

SENATE BILL 916

By Ketron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 8-30-306; Section 49-7-102; Title 58, Chapter 7; Title 58, Chapter 3 and Section 67-5-704, relative to veterans.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 58, Chapter 3, is amended by adding the following language as a new part:

§ 58-3-201.

There is created within the general fund a special account to be known as the "State Veterans' Burial Assistance Fund."

§ 58-3-202.

Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, there shall be deposited in the fund any and all funds received by the state from the United States department of veterans affairs for plot allowances for the burial of veterans and dependants in state veterans cemeteries, any direct appropriations to the fund made by the general assembly, and all private donations on behalf of veterans' burial assistance.

§ 58-3-203.

Any unencumbered funds and any unexpended balance of the fund remaining at the end of any fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund, but shall be carried forward until expended in accordance with the provisions of this part.

§ 58-3-204.

Moneys in the fund shall be invested by the state treasurer for the benefit of the fund pursuant to § 9-4-603. The fund shall be administered by the commissioner of veterans affairs.

§ 58-3-205.

Interest accruing on investments and deposits of the fund shall be returned to the fund and remain a part of the fund.

§ 58-3-206.

The state veterans' burial assistance fund is to provide for:

- (1) Operating expenses relating to burials of veterans and dependants;
- (2) Operating expenses, repair or improvements relating to state veterans cemeteries;
- (3) Payments to acquire property, or build or renovate support facilities relating to veterans cemeteries;
- (4) Salaries or stipends for veterans or employees of the department who assist in burials of veterans and dependants; and
- (5) Expenses relating to providing one United States flag.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.